



**Chapter Council Presents
Sharing Roundtables
MLA Annual Meeting
San Antonio, TX
Monday, May 16, 2005**

Table 15A: Knowledge Management

Facilitator: Sara Pimental

Recorder: Joy Harriman

Additional Participants: Kathy Brunjes, Ken Huller, Costa Papadopoulos, Eileen Stanley, Martha Thayer, Deborah Ward

Topics Discussed and Ideas Shared:

We all (those at the table) come to Knowledge Management (KM) from different perspectives and we want to integrate and/or maximize resources. KM requires broad skill sets to work.

There are different corporate cultures. One of the medical perspectives is to focus on electronic medical records, connection to physician offices and online databases. However, the implementation and integration is disjointed.

A major question at the table is “How to position the library” so we are included in the KM processes and exchanges. We want to integrate the library into all services.

What is KM? It is reducing silos structure to allow for cross pollination of information. It is experts relying on other experts to expand the knowledge base. It is drawing upon multiple skills and getting a grip on the organizational knowledge [City of Hope, Joyce Nyland].

Flexibility and ability to learn is the librarian’s skill. We are valued because we aren’t threatening.

Some at the table felt the skill sets of librarians are not valued. A problem is that technological developments are good and bad.

Reference has evolved to absorbing the best resources to a client’s question and writing a summary - not an evaluation - of that information.

Librarians: if you try to do everything, you can’t do anything.

As a profession we must loose the mantra of the ‘fundamentalist librarian’: “It’s not my job.”

Develop a shared point portal offering: Team Services, Documents, Line of business